



A GUIDE TO

NORTH CAROLINA STATE PARKS





The State Parks described in this booklet are the result of planning and development over a number of years.

Endowed by nature with ideal sites that range from the shores of the Atlantic Ocean to the tops of the Blue Ridge Mountains, the State has located its State Parks for easy access as well as for varied appeal. They offer a choice of homelike convenience and comfort in sturdy, modern facilities . . . the hardy outdoor life of tenting and camp cooking . . . or the quick-and-easy freedom of a day's picnicking. The State Parks offer excellent opportuni-

ties for economical vacations—either in the modern, fully equipped vacation cabins or in the campgrounds.

We sincerely believe that North Carolina's well planned, well located, well equipped and well maintained State Parks are a matter of justifiable pride in which every citizen has a share. This is earned by your cooperation in observing the lenient rules and leaving the facilities and grounds clean and orderly.

Keep this guide book for handy reference—use your State Parks year 'round for healthful recreation and relaxation!

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ADMINISTRATION

The North Carolina State Parks are developed, operated, maintained and administered by the Department of Conservation and Development through its Division of State Parks.

ADMISSION AND PARKING

Admission to and parking in the North Carolina State Parks are free.

SEASON OF OPERATION

North Carolina State Parks are open seven days a week the year 'round for picnicking, hiking, nature study, sightseeing and similar uses (except at Mount Mitchell and Mount Jefferson which are governed by weather conditions). Swimming facilities are operated from about June 1 through Labor Day. Refreshment stands are operated from about June 1 through Labor Day. Cabins are available for occupancy from about April 15 to about November 1, depending on

GENERAL INFORMATION

weather conditions. Tent and trailer campgrounds are operated from about April 1 to about November 1, depending on weather conditions.

HOURS OF OPERATION

All North Carolina State Parks are open for public ingress and egress during the following hours:

November, December,	
January, February	8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
March, October	8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
April, May, September	8:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
June, July, August	8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

Swimming facilities and refreshment stands open at 10:00 a.m. and close at 6:00 p.m.





GENERAL INFORMATION

LOCATION

The location of each North Carolina State Park is shown on North Carolina State Highway Commission maps and on most of the highway maps issued by oil companies.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

North Carolina State Park Rules and Regulations are posted at various places in each state park and are enforced by the park superintendents and park rangers. They include the usual provisions prohibiting cutting of trees or other vegetation, gathering of rocks, minerals, arrowheads or other artifacts, damage to state park property, building of fires except in outdoor fireplaces, etc.

Speed limit in all state parks is 25 miles per hour.

CABINS

Location: Fully equipped vacation cabins are

available at Morrow Mountain State Park and Hanging Rock State Park.

Size: Each cabin has two bedrooms, bathroom, living room, and kitchen with dining space. Each cabin accommodates up to six persons which is the maximum number of persons who may occupy one cabin.

Rental Periods: From the first Monday in June to Labor Day, cabins are rented on a weekly basis.

From Labor Day to about November 1 and from about April 15 to the first Monday in June, cabins may be rented either by the day or by the week. Rental rates are \$49.00 a week, plus 3% State Sales Tax. **RENTALS ARE MADE BY RESERVATION ONLY.**

Where to Make Reservations: To obtain complete information on cabins and to obtain application forms for requesting cabin reservations at Morrow Mountain State Park, write to *Park Superintendent, Morrow Mountain State Park, Route 2, Albemarle, North Carolina*; and at Hanging Rock State Park, write to *Park Superintendent, Hanging Rock State Park, P. O. Box 96 Danbury, North Carolina*.

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FAMILY CAMPING

Description of Developed Campgrounds: Each campground has a road through it, over which the camper may drive his car (and trailer) directly to the individual camp sites. Each camp site is equipped with table and bench, outdoor fireplace, tent site and parking space for car or trailer (except Mount Mitchell State Park which has tent camping only and a central parking area). Each campground has a central washhouse with lavatories, flush toilets, and showers for men and for women and built-in laundry washtubs. Sewage disposal and water supply facilities are approved by the North Carolina State Board of Health. Electrical, sewage and water connections for trailers are not available.

Locations: Developed campgrounds are available in Hanging Rock, Jones Lake, Morrow Mountain, Mount Mitchell and William B. Umstead State Parks.

Fees: Fee for the use of campgrounds is \$1.50 per day per campsite for four persons or less, plus 25¢ per day for each additional person in excess of four persons.

When Fees are Payable: Camp site fees are payable with application for camp site reservation.

Reservations: Reservations are made for periods of five days to two weeks. Campers wishing to stay for periods less than five days will be assigned to unreserved campsites, if available, on arrival at the park. For reservations write to the Park Superintendent of the park in which you wish to camp.

Refunds: Refund of a paid reservation will be made if cancellation request is made at least seven (7) days prior to the date on which reservation begins. *No partial refunds will be made.*

Season of Operation: Campgrounds are operated from about April 1 to about November 1, depending upon weather conditions, except at Mount Mitchell where the campgrounds is operated from about May 15 to about October 15.

Length of Stay: Minimum one day—Maximum two weeks.

Rules & Regulations: Camping in and use of state parks is governed by the State Park Regulations which are posted in each washhouse. Tents must be neatly and securely pitched in designated areas. Campers must keep and leave camp site neat and clean.

Fires: Fires may be built only in outdoor fireplaces or in personal grills with charcoal disposal in the outdoor fireplace.

Wood and Water: Wood may be purchased at each state park for a small fee. Each campground has a State Board of Health approved water supply system.





GENERAL INFORMATION

ORGANIZED GROUP CAMPS

Five complete Organized Group Camps are available in the North Carolina State Parks for organized camping during the summer months and for organized camping and other uses during the spring and fall months. All are available for use by organized youth agencies (Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, YMCAs, YWCAs, 4-H Clubs, church organizations, etc.) and by youth and adult organizations or organized groups.

Buildings and Equipment: Each camp includes a mess hall in which there is a kitchen equipped with gas stoves, gas hot water heater, electric refrigerators and sinks. The dining halls are equipped with tables and benches and can also be used as recreation halls. Each camp includes campers' cabins and counselors' cabins equipped with cots (but not mattresses and bedding); toilets and washhouses; and a water front equipped with swimming dock.

A complete set of cooking utensils and dishes may be rented for each camp at a fee of \$5.00 per week.

Location: Three group camps are located at William B. Umstead State Park. One accommo-

dates 119 persons, another 94 persons, and the third 64 persons. For more complete information and request for group camp reservations, write *Park Superintendent, William B. Umstead State Park, Route 8, Box 239, Raleigh, North Carolina.*

One group camp accommodating 64 persons is located at Reedy Creek State Park. For more complete information and request for group camp reservations, write *Park Superintendent, Reedy Creek State Park, Route 1, Box 516, Cary, North Carolina.*

One group camp accommodating 120 persons is located at Singletary Lake Group Camp. For more complete information and request for group camp reservations, write *Park Superintendent, Singletary Lake Group Camp, Elizabethtown, North Carolina.*

WILDLIFE

All North Carolina State Parks are wildlife sanctuaries and hunting, trapping, or in any way, molesting birds or animals are not permitted. Firearms, cats and dogs (except dogs on a leash not exceeding six feet in length) are not permitted within the state parks.

DOGS AND PETS

No animals or pets (except dogs on a leash not exceeding six feet in length) may be brought into any state park. **NO DOGS OR PETS ARE ALLOWED IN THE SWIMMING AREA, CABINS, OR CABIN AREA AT ANY TIME.**

BOATING

Row boats are available for rent at Cliffs of the Neuse, Hanging Rock, Jones Lake, Morrow Mountain, Pettigrew and William B. Umstead State Parks. Rental is 35¢ per hour.

FISHING

Fishing in the North Carolina State Parks is subject to rules and regulations of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission. Fee is 25¢ per day at some state parks; 50¢ per day at others.

GROCERIES AND SUPPLIES

Groceries and other supplies may be secured from towns in the vicinity of the state parks. Some of these towns and their distances from the state parks are given under LOCATION in the description of each state park.

HIKING

Foot trail systems leading to various points of interest are provided within each state park.

NATURE STUDY

North Carolina State Parks offer excellent opportunities for nature study. Naturalists are on duty at Cliffs of the Neuse, Hanging Rock, Morrow Mountain, Mount Mitchell, Reedy Creek and William B. Umstead State Parks during the summer months. Park museums are located at Cliffs of the Neuse, Morrow Mountain and Mount Mitchell State Parks.

PICNICKING

Picnic areas equipped with picnic shelters, tables and benches, outdoor fireplaces, toilets and water and sewer systems are provided free in all state parks. The picnic facilities are ideal for family groups and for large and small organized gatherings. Reservations are not made for the use of picnic areas.

REFRESHMENT STANDS

Cold drinks, sandwiches, candies, cigarettes, crackers, etc. are on sale at refreshment stands operated from about June 1 through Labor Day at Cliffs of the Neuse, Fort Macon, Jones Lake, Hanging Rock, Hammocks Beach and Morrow Mountain State Parks and from about May 15 to about October 15 at Mount Mitchell State Park.

RESTAURANTS

A modern restaurant is operated at Mount Mitchell State Park from about May 1 until about October 31.

SWIMMING

Swimming facilities are operated from about June 1 through Labor Day at Cliffs of the Neuse, Duke Power, Fort Macon, Hammocks Beach, Hanging Rock, Jones Lake and Morrow Mountain State Parks. Lifeguards are on duty at all times during swimming hours.

Fees: 40¢ for adults; 25¢ for children under 12. Fee includes checking service, towel and soap.





CLIFFS OF THE NEUSE STATE PARK

LOCATION

Cliffs of the Neuse State Park is on the banks of the Neuse River in Wayne County, 14 miles southeast of Goldsboro on North Carolina Highway 111. *Mailing Address:* Cliffs of the Neuse State Park, Route 2, Seven Springs, North Carolina 28578. *Telephone:* Goldsboro, REpublic 4-2617.

DESCRIPTION

Cliffs of the Neuse State Park was acquired by gift in 1945 and was established as a state park for the preservation of distinctive scenic and natural features and the provision of facilities for outdoor recreation. It includes 378 acres and lies on both sides of the Neuse River. The most striking natural feature is the cliffs, rising ninety feet above the Neuse River. These cliffs are a unique geological feature in this section of the State. This state park is very interesting botanically because of the unusual mixture of herbaceous plants, trees and shrubs it contains. Galax, most unusual in the eastern part of the State, contrasts with Spanish moss. American beech, baldcypress and several species of oak are among the many species of

trees in the park. In season, the flowering plants include dogwood, azalea and many other flowering shrubs and herbaceous plants. Bobwhite and numerous songbirds frequent the park, and the common mammals include cottontail rabbit, raccoon, fox and gray squirrel, opossum and muskrat.

Two clear streams flow through the park and are accessible by foot trail. On one of them, a lake has been created which affords swimming and boating.

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Swimming—Bathhouse and lake with beach and protected bathing area. Open from about June 1 through Labor Day. *Boating*—Boathouse and boats for rent on lake. *Fishing*—Bass and pan fish in Neuse River. *Picnicking*—Picnic area equipped with picnic shelter, tables and benches, outdoor fireplaces, water and toilets. *Refreshment Stands*—Cold drinks, sandwiches, candies, cigarettes, etc. for sale at bathhouse from about June 1 through Labor Day. *Camping*—Limited tent camping permitted. No developed campgrounds. *Hiking*—System of foot trails. *Nature Study*—Park museum. Nature trails. Naturalist on duty June, July and August.



Ideal for family fun, Cliffs of the Neuse State Park offers swimming in a protected bathing area (opposite page and below) and picnicking in the well equipped picnic area (opposite). The most interesting natural feature is "the Cliffs" shown above in the upper right picture.





DUKE POWER STATE PARK

LOCATION

In Iredell County on the northern shores of Lake Norman, 10 miles south of Statesville, 14 miles northwest of Mooresville and 39 miles from Charlotte. The park is accessible over 3.8 miles of paved County Roads Nos. 1303 and 1321 from U. S. 21 at Troutman. *Mailing Address:* Duke Power State Park, Route 1, Box 485, Troutman, North Carolina 28166. *Telephone:* Troutman 528-4263.

DESCRIPTION

Covering 1328 acres, Duke Power State Park is located on the northern edge of Lake Norman and has approximately 13 miles of shoreline. The park is heavily wooded with several species of pine, mixed hardwood and a variety of shrubs and wildflowers. Dogwood is abundant throughout the park. The winding fingers of Lake Norman backwaters provide good fishing, boating and water skiing during late spring, summer and early fall.

Mammals and birds include raccoon, opossum, squirrel, muskrat, red and gray fox, rabbit, skunk, quail, dove, whip-poor-will and numerous song birds. During the summer, egrets may be seen feeding in the shallow backwaters. Several species of ducks frequent the park during the winter and spring.

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Swimming—Bathhouse and lake with sand beach and protected swimming area. Open from about June 1 through Labor Day. *Picnicking*—One picnic area with picnic tables near swimming area. *Refreshment Stand*—Cold drinks, sandwiches, candies, cigarettes, etc. for sale near bathhouse from about June 1 through Labor Day. *Boating*—Boats for rent on 33 acre lake. Two temporary boat launching areas, boating, fishing and water skiing on Lake Norman. *Sunshelter*—Overlooking the swimming area and lake for those who prefer shaded relaxation. *Fishing*—Bass and pan fish in 33 acre lake and in Lake Norman.



Fishing, boating, swimming and other water activities highlight the recreation of Lake Norman while the hardwood and pine forests of this park afford excellent opportunities for hiking and nature study.





FORT MACON STATE PARK

LOCATION

Located in Carteret County, across Bogue Sound from Morehead City and Beaufort, Fort Macon State Park is easily accessible over paved roads from U. S. 70 at the western edge of Morehead City. *Mailing Address:* Fort Macon State Park, P. O. Box 127, Atlantic Beach, North Carolina 28512. *Telephone:* Morehead City, 726-3775.

DESCRIPTION

Fort Macon State Park, bounded by the Atlantic Ocean on the south and Bogue Sound on the north, is on the barrier beach of Bogue Island and extends some two miles westward from Beaufort Inlet. Within the park's 385 acres is historic Fort Macon, a hundred-year-old masterpiece of architectural beauty, seized by the Confederate forces in April 1861, and captured by the Union forces on April 26, 1862. Since early Colonial days, the location of the present fort has been the site of fortifications for the protection of Beaufort Inlet.

No less interesting is the natural beauty of Fort Macon State Park. The high dunes, covered with the waving plumes of sea oats, old cedars picturesquely shorn by the wind and salt spray, live oaks, redberried yaupon, the green marshes along the sound, the ceaseless breaking of the ocean on

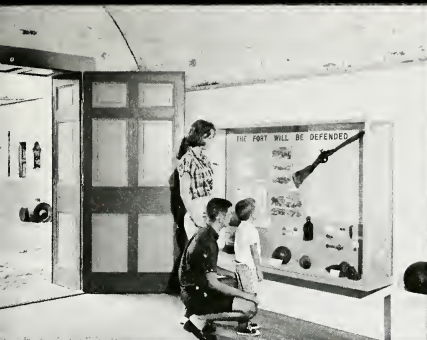
the beach, are all a part of a coastal area of unusually high scenic values.

The park is populated by a host of seashore birds, including gulls, terns, sandpipers and the like.

Fort Macon, established in 1924 by transfer from the Federal government, was the second North Carolina State Park to be acquired. It was established and is maintained for the three-fold purpose of protecting and preserving outstanding natural and scenic values, protecting and preserving Fort Macon, and providing recreational use of natural resources.

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Swimming—Modern Bathhouse, sunshelter and protected swimming area in Atlantic Ocean. Open about June 1 through Labor Day. *Fishing*—Surf casting in ocean and sound from shores of park. *Picnicking*—Picnic area equipped with picnic shelter, tables and benches, outdoor fireplaces, water and toilets. *Refreshment Stand*—Cold drinks, sandwiches, candies, cigarettes, etc. for sale near bathhouse and picnic area from June 1 through Labor Day. *Hiking*—Over sand dunes or along ocean shore. *Nature Study*—Excellent opportunities for study of bird, seashore and plant life. *Historic Structures*—Old Fort Macon partially restored. Museum in fort.



The pictures: Opposite page: Beach and protected swimming area. Above: Surf fishing at sunset. Opposite: Family fun on the beach. Upper left and below: Views of Fort Macon.





HAMMOCKS BEACH STATE PARK

LOCATION

Hammocks Beach State Park is on Bear Island in Onslow County. It is reached from North Carolina Highway 24 by turning south one and one half miles west of Swansboro onto a county road and driving two and one half miles to a ferry landing. From this point ferry services for passengers only (no vehicles) is provided from June 1 through Labor Day. *Mailing Address:* Hammocks Beach State Park, P. O. Box 38, Swansboro, North Carolina 28584.

DESCRIPTION

Hammocks Beach State Park includes all of Bear Island, covers 890 acres and has over three miles of ocean front. This outstanding seashore area was acquired by gift in 1961. It was established as a state park to preserve and protect outstanding scenic and natural features, to provide recreational use of natural resources, and to provide opportunity for the study of its natural features.

Unusually high sand dunes, a beautiful ocean beach unmarred by the hand of man, the broad

expanse of the Atlantic Ocean, and the sweep of the marshes lying between the island and the mainland all combine to make Hammocks Beach State Park one of the most beautiful and interesting seashore areas in North Carolina. It offers unexcelled opportunities for peaceful relaxation and active outdoor recreation.

Gulls, terns, sandpipers and many other seashore birds may be seen in the park as well as a number of other bird species which are migrants or seasonal visitors. The marshes shelter still other species of birds as well as muskrat, otter and other mammals.

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Fishing—Surf casting in ocean and fishing in sound. *Hiking*—Over sand dunes and along ocean shore. *Nature Study*—Excellent opportunities for study of bird and seashore life. *Swimming*—Modern bathhouse and protected swimming area in Atlantic Ocean. *Picnicking*—Picnic area equipped with tables, benches, water and toilets. *Refreshment Stand*—Cold drinks, sandwiches, candies, cigarettes, etc. for sale near bathhouse and picnic area from about June 1 through Labor Day.



With one of the finest beaches in North Carolina, Hammocks Beach State Park offers wonderful opportunities for picnicking, swimming and seaside relaxation.





HANGING ROCK STATE PARK

LOCATION

Hanging Rock State Park is in Stokes County, four miles northwest of Danbury, 14 miles from Walnut Cove, and 32 miles north of Winston-Salem. Accessible over paved roads from North Carolina highways 89 and 66. *Mailing Address:* Hanging Rock State Park, P. O. Box 96, Danbury, North Carolina 27016. *Telephone:* Danbury, LYnnhurst 3-2841.

DESCRIPTION

Located in the Sauratown Mountains, one of the most easterly mountainous areas in the State, Hanging Rock State Park offers a variety of features, both natural and man-made, that afford interest and pleasure. Here is natural beauty in profusion. Rugged mountain terrain, clear sparkling mountain streams, waterfalls and cascades, a cool inviting lake nestled in the hills, extensive growths of mountain laurel, rhododendron, stewartia and other flowering shrubs, beautiful interior and distant views—all these await the visitor.

Included in the 4030 acres of Hanging Rock State Park are Hanging Rock and Moore's Knob. From Moore's Knob, elevation 2572 feet, one may look across the valley of the Dan River, with its

patchwork of tobacco fields, to the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina and Virginia. From Hanging Rock, miles of the upper portion of the Piedmont Plateau are spread out before the eye.

Hanging Rock State Park lies on the Piedmont Plateau, an ancient erosion surface underlain by highly altered rocks. Most of the rocks were originally sandstone; but, under conditions of great heat and pressure, they were changed to massive quartzites and foliated rocks, such as quartz schist and quartz mica schist. Hanging Rock, Cook's Wall and Moore's Knob owe their greater height to the fact that they are composed of quartzite—a type of rock with superior resistance to erosion. Under the combined action of heat and cold and water, the softer rocks have been eroded, leaving the quartzite to form peaks. Also interesting geologically is a rare and peculiar variety of sandstone, itacolumite, known locally as flexible sandstone, which is flexible and may be easily bent.

The wealth of plant life at Hanging Rock State Park is particularly interesting, not only to the botanist but, because of the beauty of flower and form of many of the species, to the layman as well. Over three hundred species of plants typical of the Piedmont and of the lower mountain ranges are represented, some of them quite uncommon. Common mammals include gray squirrel, opossum and raccoon.

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Swimming—Bathhouse and lake with sand beach and protected water area. Open about June 1 through Labor Day. *Boating*—Boathouse with boats for rent on lake. *Fishing*—Bass and pan fish in lake. *Picnicking*—Two picnic areas each equipped with picnic shelter, tables and benches, outdoor fireplaces, water and toilets. *Refreshment Stands*—Cold drinks, sandwiches, candies, cigarettes, etc. for sale at bathhouse from about June 1 through Labor Day. *Camping*—Tent and trailer campground with individual camp sites and central washhouse and toilets. *Vacation Cabins*—Six completely equipped vacation cabins. *Hiking*—System of foot trails to points of interest. *Nature Study*—Nature trails. Naturalist on duty June, July and August. *Lookout Tower*—Stone lookout tower on Moore's Knob.



The beauty and coolness of the Sauratown Mountains make swimming, picnicking, hiking, camping and other outdoor recreation at Hanging Rock State Park especially enjoyable. The views from Hanging Rock (upper right) and Moore's Knob are striking.



JONES LAKE STATE PARK

LOCATION

In Bladen County, four miles from Elizabethtown on State Highway 242. *Mailing Address:* Jones Lake State Park, Elizabethtown, North Carolina 28337. *Telephone:* Elizabethtown, 862-3834.

DESCRIPTION

Jones Lake State Park covers 1893 acres. The area contains typical Coastal Plain forest landscape and good examples of pocosins, which are upland shrub bogs peculiar to the eastern parts of the Carolinas and Georgia. Jones Lake, one of the natural lakes said to have been formed by the impact of meteorites on the earth's surface, has an area of 224 acres and is the most important natural feature. With its placid surface and cypress bordered shores, it forms a beautiful landscape picture.

The park contains a great variety of trees and shrubs. The most conspicuous tree is the stately long leaf pine with its distinctive long needles. Other trees include loblolly pine, pond pine which grows in the pocosins, juniper (white cedar), black gum, American holly and turkey oak. Dis-

tinctive shrubs include the loblolly or bull bay with its beautiful white flowers, wax myrtle, gall berry and fetter bush with flowers like those of the lily-of-the-valley.

Common mammals include deer, gray fox, gray and fox squirrels and raccoon. Turkey, redwing, blackbird, owls, hawks and numerous songbirds are included among the birds.

Jones Lake State Park is within the boundaries of 40,000-acre Bladen Lakes State Forest.

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Swimming—Bathhouse and lake with sand beach and protected water area. Open from about June 1 through Labor Day. *Boating*—Boathouse and boats for rent on lake. *Fishing*—Bass and pan fish in lake. *Picnicking*—Picnic area equipped with picnic shelter, tables and benches, outdoor fireplaces, water and toilets. *Refreshment Stand*—Cold drinks, sandwiches, candies, cigarettes, etc. for sale at refreshment stand near bathhouse from about June 1 through Labor Day. *Camping*—Tent and trailer campground with individual camp sites and central washhouse and toilets. *Hiking*—Over fire trails. *Nature Study*—Excellent opportunities for nature study.



The pictures: Opposite page: The beach and boathouse. Upper left: A family picnic. Upper right: View of protected swimming area from boathouse pier. Opposite: Cooling sport. Bottom: Boating on the 224 acre natural lake.





MORROW MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

LOCATION

Stanly County, seven miles east of Albemarle. Accessible over paved roads from North Carolina Highways 27, 73 and 740. *Mailing Address:* Morrow Mountain State Park, Route 2, Albemarle, North Carolina 28001. *Telephone:* YUkon 2-4402.

DESCRIPTION

Covering 4135 acres in the Uwharrie Mountains on the banks of the Pee Dee River, Morrow Mountain State Park is one of the outstanding attractions of the Piedmont.

Its decidedly mountainous appearance is accentuated by the sharp differences in elevation between the hills and the surrounding countryside, and is emphasized by the heavy growths of mountain laurel in the stream valleys and on the hillsides.

From the summit of Morrow Mountain a wonderful panoramic view extends for miles. The broad expanse of the Pee Dee River flowing placidly along the eastern boundary of the park,

the hills ranging to the north and east, the rolling farm lands dotted with grain fields and stretching westward from the hills, are parts of the picture that greets the eye—a picture which is full of the beauty of nature at any season. In the spring, the fresh new green of the pines and the white of the dogwood bloom on the hillsides herald the new season. In the fall the hills are clothed with the flaming beauty of autumn foliage.

Morrow Mountain State Park is part of an area of exceptional geological interest. The Uwharrie Mountains, which form a part of what remains of the Ocoee Mountains, are a portion of the oldest mountain range in America—far older than the mountains of the Appalachian System.

Within the park is a great variety of plant life. Dogwood, redbud, red cedar, American holly, oaks, maples, pines are but a few of the larger species under which grow many kinds of shrubs and herbaceous plants. Plant associations of both the woods and the open fields are present.

Deer, gray squirrel, raccoon and opossum are among the most frequently seen mammals. Turkey, quail and many species of songbirds inhabit the park.

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Swimming—Modern Bathhouse and swimming pool. Open from about June 1 through Labor Day. *Boating*—Boathouse with rowboats for rent on Pee Dee River. *Fishing*—Bass and pan fish in Pee Dee River. *Picnicking*—Two picnic areas (one near bathhouse and one on top of Morrow Mountain) each equipped with picnic shelter, tables and benches, outdoor fireplaces, water and toilets. *Refreshment Stands*—Cold drinks, sandwiches, candies, cigarettes, etc. for sale at bathhouse from about June 1 through Labor Day. *Camping*—Family campground with individual camp sites and central washhouse and toilets. *Vacation Cabins*—Six completely equipped vacation cabins. *Hiking*—System of foot trails. *Nature Study*—Nature trails. Park museum. Naturalist on duty June, July and August. *Historic Structures*—The original residence of Dr. Francis Joseph Kron, prominent early Stanly County physician and citizen, and some of the out-buildings connected with the residence have been restored.



Amid the beauty of the Uwharrie Hills, Morrow Mountain State Park offers excellent recreational opportunities ranging from picnicking in natural surroundings and swimming in a supervised pool to vacationing in fully equipped cottages.



MOUNT JEFFERSON STATE PARK

LOCATION

In Ashe County, four miles from Jefferson and the same distance from West Jefferson. Accessible over improved road leaving U. S. 221 midway between Jefferson and West Jefferson. *Mailing Address:* Mount Jefferson State Park, P. O. Box 174, Jefferson, North Carolina. *Telephone:* West Jefferson 246-9445.

DESCRIPTION

Mount Jefferson State Park covers 474 acres and includes the peak and slopes of Mount Jefferson. Fine panoramic views of the country for miles around may be seen from various points within the park.

Mount Jefferson is a steep sided northwesterly trending mountain that rises abruptly for more than 1600 feet above the surrounding terrain. It lies along the drainage divide of North Fork and South Fork of New River, and these drainage systems had important influences on the size and shape of the mountain. This and other high mountains in the area are but remnants of a broad high plateau that existed throughout much of Western North Carolina in past geologic times but which has been geologically dissected as a result of the

weathering of the underlying rocks and their removal by stream action and other erosive forces. Mount Jefferson has formed as a result of the resistance of the underlying rocks to these erosive forces.

The park includes a wide variety of forest trees, shrubs and flowers. At the lower elevations, sugar maple, red maple, black locust, ash, hickory, tulip poplar, birch, basswood, chestnut oak, white oak and the various red oaks are found. The upper elevations are almost completely occupied by chestnut oak with a heavy undergrowth of purple rhododendron and mountain laurel. From June 10 until July 1, the mountain is particularly attractive with this profusion of flowering shrubbery. Other flowering trees and shrubs are service berry, bush honeysuckle, azalea and dogwood. Wild iris, jack-in-the-pulpit, violets, galax mosses, ferns and huckleberries are plants of interest that can be found in the park.

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Picnicking—A picnic area equipped with tables and benches, outdoor fireplaces, water and toilets. *Hiking*—Over trail along summit of mountain. *Nature Study*—Interesting opportunities for nature study.



These pictures illustrate the rugged beauty of Mount Jefferson. The view from the overlook (adjacent picture) is typical of the many fine views to be seen from Mount Jefferson State Park.





MOUNT MITCHELL STATE PARK

LOCATION

Mount Mitchell State Park is in the Black Mountains of Yancey County, 34 miles northeast of Asheville and 32 miles from Marion. It is reached over a paved road from the Blue Ridge Parkway. *Mailing Address:* Mount Mitchell State Park, Route 5, Box 400, Burnsville, North Carolina 28714.

DESCRIPTION

Mount Mitchell State Park is truly in "the land of the sky"—no place in the park is less than a mile high. The dominant feature is Mount Mitchell, the highest peak in the Eastern United States, towering 6684 feet above sea level. The views from Mount Mitchell, and from other parts of the park, are among the most beautiful and magnificent in the Southern Appalachians. Protected within the park are several hundred acres of virgin balsam and spruce forest.

The plant life of Mount Mitchell State Park, like the climate, is more that of Canada than Carolina. The forests are almost pure balsam and red spruce stands, but some yellow birch, paper birch, fire cherry and mountain ash may also be found. Shrubs include two species of rhododendron, red elder, mountain maple and wild hydrangea.

Mammals include the black bear, deer, red squirrel, woodchuck, wildcat and civet cat. Ruffed grouse and the Carolina Junco (snowbird) are found in the park throughout the year, while robins, winter wrens, song sparrows and other songbirds are summer residents.

Mount Mitchell State Park was the first state park to be established in North Carolina. The 1275 acres included in it was purchased by the State in 1915 to protect and preserve Mount Mitchell and the outstanding scenic and natural values of the park, and to provide outdoor recreation and vacation use.

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Picnicking—Picnic areas equipped with picnic shelters, tables and benches, outdoor fireplaces, water and toilets. *Refreshment Stand*—Coffee, cold drinks, sandwiches, candies, cigarettes, souvenirs, etc. for sale near summit from about June 1 through Labor Day. *Camping*—Tent campground with individual camp sites and central washhouse and toilets. *Restaurant*—Operated in building with observation lounge from about May 1 to about October 31. *Hiking*—System of foot trails. *Nature Study*—Trails, park museum. *Naturalist* on duty June, July and August. *Lookout Tower*—Stone lookout tower on Mount Mitchell.



The massive grandeur of Mount Mitchell and the Black Mountains is strikingly illustrated on the opposite page. A view of the surrounding mountains may be enjoyed by all from the observation tower (lower right). Good food and fine views may be had in the restaurant (upper left).





PETTIGREW STATE PARK

LOCATION

In Washington and Tyrrell Counties, on the shores of Lake Phelps, nine miles south of Creswell. Accessible over paved road from U. S. 64 at Creswell. *Mailing Address:* Pettigrew State Park, Creswell, North Carolina 27928. *Telephone:* Creswell, North Carolina 797-4475.

DESCRIPTION

Pettigrew State Park, named after General James Johnston Pettigrew, Civil War hero, who is buried just outside of the park, is on the shores of Lake Phelps in the historic Albemarle section of the low level Coastal Plain.

The park is located on portions of two fine old plantations, "Bonarva" and "Somerset Place", which flourished from the late seventeen hundreds until the Civil War. Somerset Place was established about 1787 by Josiah Collins and two associates. Josiah Collins had emigrated to the United States from Somersetshire, England, and after brief residences in Boston and Halifax, North Carolina, settled in Edenton where he established a thriving mercantile and shipping business and a prosperous rope walk. Bonarva Plantation was established about 1789 by Charles Pettigrew who was the first Bishop-elect of the Episcopal Church of North Carolina. To bring these and the other plantations in the vicinity to full cultivation, many miles of canals had to be dug to convert the

swamp land into fertile fields. The canals, all dug by slave labor, are still in existence.

Among the remaining buildings is the manor of Somerset Place. This house, an interesting example of Greek Revival architecture as it was adapted to Eastern North Carolina, was built on the shores of Lake Phelps by Josiah Collins III in the early 1830's. The Pettigrew House, Bonarva, begun in 1789 by Charles Pettigrew and enlarged by Ebenezer Pettigrew, was burned in 1860.

State-Owned Lake Phelps, one of the most beautiful of North Carolina's natural lakes, adds greatly to the natural beauty of the park. A magnificent cypress growth along the lake shore is not the least of the attractions that await the visitor. These great old trees, which have seen the rise and decline of the large plantations, form a most attractive setting for the lake, which has long been an angler's paradise. In the 16,600-acre lake, second largest natural lake in the State, black bass and pan fish abound. The lake is a wildlife sanctuary and thousands of waterfowl may be seen in it during the winter months.

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Boating—Boat pier and launching site for boats. Row boats for rent. *Fishing*—Pan fish and bass fishing in Lake Phelps. *Historic Structures*—Somerset place manor house, and other buildings and features of Somerset Place. The grounds, walks, drives, some of the buildings and part of the gardens have been restored.



Somerset Place portrays the large plantations of the Old South. The kitchen and outbuildings (upper right), the mansion (opposite) and the grounds have been restored and are in excellent condition. Boating (opposite page) and fishing in Lake Phelps are popular sports.





REEDY CREEK STATE PARK

LOCATION

Reedy Creek State Park is in Wake County, 20 miles from Durham and 12 miles from Raleigh. It is reached from North Carolina Highway 54 by turning north onto the Reedy Creek Road at the outskirts of Cary. *Mailing Address:* Reedy Creek State Park, Route 1, Box 516, Cary, North Carolina 27511. *Telephone:* Cary, HOpkins 7-9059.

DESCRIPTION

Situated in the heavily populated Raleigh-Durham area, Reedy Creek State Park is within a short driving distance of many people. Its opportunities for group camping, outings, day-use and the study of natural sciences are excellent. Covering 1323 acres, the park is one of the most beautiful wooded areas in the eastern edge of the Piedmont. Its forest growths include stands of pine, mixed hardwood and pine stands, and stands composed entirely of hardwoods. With its forest growth, its quite rugged topography and picturesque streams, it is an outstanding example of eastern Piedmont landscape.

The park has an abundance of plant and animal life. Several species of pine, oak, and hickory, black gum, sweet gum and tulip poplar are only a few of the different kinds of trees in the park. Dogwood, redbud and mountain laurel are numbered among the shrubs in addition to many herbaceous plants.

Mammal and birdlife is abundant too. Red and gray fox, gray squirrel, cottontail rabbit, raccoon, opossum and muskrat inhabit the park. Turkey, quail, several species of owls and hawks and many songbirds may be seen.

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Picnicking—Picnic area equipped with picnic shelter, tables and benches, outdoor fireplaces, water and toilets. *Fishing*—Bass and pan fish in lake. *Organized Camping*—Complete group camp for use of organized youth groups during summer months and youth and adult groups during other months. *Hiking*—System of foot trails. *Nature Study*—Excellent opportunities for nature study. Naturalist on duty June, July and August.



Within the protected forest of Reedy Creek State Park are excellent facilities for recreational use of natural resources. The group camp includes a lake (opposite page) for boating and swimming. Day use facilities include a well equipped picnic area (above).





SINGLETARY LAKE GROUP CAMP

LOCATION

Singletary Lake Group Camp is in Bladen County on North Carolina Highway 53, ten miles southeast of Elizabethtown. *Mailing Address:* Singletary Lake Group Camp, Elizabethtown, North Carolina 28337. *Telephone:* Elizabethtown 862-2449.

DESCRIPTION

Singletary Lake Group Camp is operated primarily for the use of organized groups and is completely equipped to accommodate 100 campers. Facilities available include a large mess hall with kitchen in which are gas stoves, sinks and refrigerators; ten campers' cabins, each accommodating ten campers; two washhouses, each equipped with showers, toilets, lavatories, laundry tubs and hot water; five-room staff house; a craft shop; cooks' quarters; and a swimming dock. The group camp is equipped with electricity, running water and sanitary sewage system.

Singletary Lake, a natural lake with an area

of 572 acres and said to have been formed by the impact of meteorites on the earth's surface, is the principal natural feature. The varied and interesting plant and animal life afford ample opportunities for nature study. Long leaf, loblolly and pond pines, turkey oak, juniper (white cedar) and bald cypress are among the trees found on the area. Loblolly or bull bay, wax myrtle, gallberry and other shrubs are plentiful and there are many herbaceous plants. Deer, opossum, raccoon and gray fox may be seen. Besides quail and owls, a number of songbirds inhabit the area.

The 1221 acres covered by the area are within the boundaries of Bladen Lakes State Forest.

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Boating—Row boats for rent on Singletary Lake. *Fishing*—Bass and pan fish in lake. *Organized Camping*—Complete group camp, accommodating 100 campers plus staff, for use of organized youth groups during summer months and organized youth and adult groups during other months.



Over the years, hundreds of youth organizations and thousands of boys and girls have enjoyed the rewarding experience of camping at Singletary Lake Group Camp. The pictures illustrate some of the daily activities of one youth group.





WEYMOUTH WOODS-SANDHILLS NATURE PRESERVE

LOCATION

Weymouth Woods—Sandhills Nature Preserve is located in Moore County, one mile southeast of Southern Pines. It is reached by following Connecticut Avenue southeast towards the Fort Bragg Military Reservation from town.

DESCRIPTION

Situated in the famous "Sandhills" of North Carolina, Weymouth Woods—Sandhills Nature Preserve covers 403 acres and is the only area in the State Parks System established exclusively as a nature preserve. It is part of a region once

covered by an ancient sea. The topography of the area is that of pine-covered "sandridges", trickling sandy streams, swamp bottomland and hardwood-covered lowland and hollows.

The hiker is greeted by many birds and animals such as raccoons, fox, beaver and deer that abound in this area which is characterized by its various habitat types typified by long leaf pines, hardwoods, dogwood, holly and native azaleas.

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Hiking—System of foot trails. *Nature Study*—Excellent opportunities for all phases of nature study. Naturalist on duty the year 'round.



In these days of our ever vanishing natural landscape, it is a joy to realize that a small portion of that landscape will be preserved for our future generations through areas such as this. The story of the Sandhills is vividly told here.





WILLIAM B. UMSTEAD STATE PARK

LOCATION

William B. Umstead State Park is in Wake County on U. S. Highway 70, eleven miles from Raleigh and thirteen miles from Durham. *Mailing Address:* William B. Umstead State Park, Route 8, Box 239, Raleigh, North Carolina 27607. *Telephone:* Raleigh, 787-3033.

DESCRIPTION

Covering 3891 acres, William B. Umstead State Park, named in honor of former Governor William B. Umstead, is one of the most beautiful areas in the eastern edge of the Piedmont. The park is heavily wooded and contains quite rugged topography and several picturesque streams.

The three group camps at William B. Umstead State Park provide excellent opportunities for organized camping by youth groups and organized adult groups.

Both plant and animal life are interesting and varied. Some of the wooded areas are pure pine stands, others are mixed pines and hardwoods, and still others are entirely hardwoods. A variety of

trees and shrubs, from the beautiful dogwood to the towering tulip poplar, are within the park as is also a variety of wild flowers.

Mammals and birds include raccoon, red and gray fox, opossum, squirrel, muskrat, beaver, cottontail rabbit, turkey, quail, several species of owls and a host of songbirds. Whip-poor-wills are heard on summer nights.

This varied plant and animal life make the area very interesting for outdoor recreation.

FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Picnicking—Two picnic areas equipped with picnic shelter, tables and benches, outdoor fireplaces, water and toilets. *Camping*—Tent and trailer campground with individual camp sites and central washhouse and toilets. *Boating*—Boat-house with boats for rent on 55-acre lake. *Fishing*—Bass and pan fish in streams and in lake. *Organized Camping*—Three complete camps on the shores of a 21-acre lake. *Hiking*—System of foot trails. *Nature Study*—Nature trails. Naturalist on duty full time during June, July and August, and on weekends during fall and spring months.



The forests of William B. Umstead State Park, for more than a quarter of a century protected from damage and molestation, provide an excellent setting for outdoor recreation. Organized camping programs offer interesting and beneficial experiences. (opposite, below and lower right). Facilities for general public use include excellent campgrounds (above) and picnic areas (upper right).





The North Carolina State Parks are dedicated to the preservation and protection of outstanding natural and scenic values for your inspiration and enjoyment and for the inspiration and enjoyment of generations yet unborn.

In these times, when we turn more and more to nature for relaxation and for rest and relief from the pressures and tensions of modern life, the most important values of state parks are those derived from unspoiled natural conditions.

To guarantee that these important values will always be available to you, and to future generations, the unspoiled natural conditions of the state parks must be kept unspoiled and natural. You, as a state park user, can play an important part in protecting the unspoiled naturalness of the state parks by making sure that your use of them in no way mars their natural beauty and by being alert to protest against any attempt at encroachment on or despoilation of the state parks.



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